

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Siegfried HAPKE et al.

Appl. No: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: Concurrently

**For: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS
FOR ASCERTAINING THE
TRANSVERSE DIMENSIONS OF
ROD-SHAPED ARTICLES**

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Atty. Docket No: 31512-199620 RK

Customer No:

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 within the time specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

Each document is cited in the application, where their relevance is indicated.

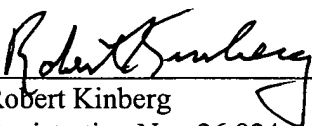
In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required, and as all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guide lines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been complied with, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider the documents and make them of record.

Inventor: Siegfried HAPKE et al.
Atty. Docket No: 31512-199620 RK

Please charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this
Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 5, 2004


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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	NOT YET ASSIGNED
			Filing Date	Concurrently
			First Named Inventor	Siegfried HAPKE et al.
			Prior Group Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
			Prior Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	31512-199620 RK

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	4,893,960		HEITMANN et al.	1/16/1990	
	AB	5,009,238		HEITMANN	4/23/1991	
	AC	5,715,843		HAPKE et al.	2/10/1998	
	AD	5,135,008		OESTERLING et al.	8/4/1992	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆
		Offic e ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	AE	EP	0 909 537		COTTI et al.	4/21/1999		
	AF	DE	195 23 273		HAPKE et al.	1/9/1997		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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